United Nations A/C.5/59/14

General Assembly

Distr.: General
4 November 2004

Original: English

Fifty-ninth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 109
Programme planning

Letter dated 4 November 2004 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for the consideration of the Fifth Committee, a letter from the Chairman of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) dated 2 November 2004 transmitting the results of the review by the Fourth Committee of programme 23 (Public information) of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007, under agenda item 109 (see annex).

(*Signed*) Jean **Ping**

04-59234 (E) 051104

Annex

In accordance with the decision taken by the General Assembly at its second plenary meeting, on 17 September 2004 to allocate programme 23, Public information, under agenda item 109, to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for review and action and for subsequent submission to the Fifth Committee for its consideration in the context of the overall strategic framework for the period 2006-2007, the Fourth Committee considered the relevant part of item 109 at its 14th, 15th and 19th meetings, on 21, 25 and 29 October 2004.

At its 19th meeting, on 29 October 2004, the Fourth Committee reached an agreement on the changes to the document entitled "Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007, Part two: biennial programme plan, Programme 23, Public information", contained in document A/59/6 (Prog. 23). The Committee decided to transmit the agreed changes to the Fifth Committee (see enclosure).

I would be grateful if you could transmit the present letter and its enclosure to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee.

(*Signed*) Kyaw Tint **Swe**
Chairman
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Enclosure

1. In paragraph 23.1 of A/59/6 (Prog. 23), the words "United Nations information centres and services" are to be replaced by the words "United Nations information centre, services, information components and regional hubs, where applicable". This is to be repeated throughout the text where United Nations information centres are mentioned, such as in paragraphs 23.6, 23.7 and 23.10.

2. Insert, after paragraph 23.2, the following new paragraph:

"23.3. Progress will continue to be made towards rationalizing the network of United Nations information centres, in conformity with paragraph 15 of resolution 57/300 of 20 December 2002, resolution 58/101 B of 9 December 2003 and [draft resolution B adopted on 21 October 2004 by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee as contained in document A/59/21], with the objective of enhancing their strategic capacity and value as a key element in the Department's outreach."

(Following the adoption of the draft resolution by the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, the reference number will be inserted to replace the phrase in the brackets.)

3. Paragraph 23.8 should read as follows (new text shown in bold):

"23.8. In order to generate better informed public opinion on priority issues, information products for specialized media will be developed and disseminated in the official languages, as well as in local languages **where possible,** by United Nations information centres and services **and regional hubs, where applicable.** Strategic media outreach activities, such as press conferences and interviews with senior officials, will be organized. Web sites in local languages will continue to be created and maintained by the information centres **and regional hubs, where applicable.**"

4. Insert the following in ascending numerical order, under "Legislative mandates", the last section of the document:

"57/300 Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change"

"59/...B (the reference number and title to be added after its adoption by the General Assembly)".